

**STAFF MEETING MINUTES  
LANCASTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
COUNTY-CITY BUILDING  
ROOM 113  
THURSDAY, MAY 19, 2005  
8:30 A.M.**

Commissioners Present: Larry Hudkins, Chair  
Deb Schorr, Vice Chair  
Bernie Heier  
Bob Workman  
Ray Stevens

Others Present: Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer  
Gwen Thorpe, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer  
Kristy Mundt, Deputy County Attorney  
Bruce Medcalf, Lancaster County Clerk  
Trish Owen, Chief Deputy County Clerk  
Ann Taylor, County Clerk's Office

The Chair opened the meeting at 8:30 a.m.

**AGENDA ITEM**

**LEGISLATIVE UPDATE** - Gordon Kissel, Legislative Consultant

Gordon Kissel, Legislative Consultant, gave a legislative update (Exhibit A) and said it is anticipated that the Governor will veto the jail reimbursement increase passed by the Legislature. Kissel will poll state senators to gauge support for an override, should that be necessary. Kissel will work with Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer, to draft a letter to State Senators asking for their support. The Board will review the letter at the Tuesday, May 24, 2005 Staff Meeting.

In response to a question from Schorr, Kissel said LB 557 (Change permitted uses of lodging tax revenue) will likely be part of the Consent Calendar.

**1 APPROVAL OF THE STAFF MEETING MINUTES OF THURSDAY,  
MAY 12, 2005**

**MOTION:** Stevens moved and Heier seconded approval of the Staff Meeting minutes dated May 12, 2005. Workman, Heier, Schorr, Stevens and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried.

## **2 ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

- A. Meeting to Discuss the Charles Lindbergh Memorial Airport Proposal
- B. County Logo
- C. Surplus Property on Northwest 27<sup>th</sup> Street and Highway 34

**MOTION:** Stevens moved and Schorr seconded approval of the additions to the agenda. Stevens, Schorr, Workman and Hudkins voted aye. Heier was absent from voting. Motion carried.

## **3 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE - Gordon Kissel, Legislative Consultant**

Item moved forward on the agenda.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER REPORT**

- I. Non-Paid Professional Voluntary Partnership at Community Mental Health Center

Dean Settle, Community Mental Health Center Director, appeared and recommended that the County enter into a one-year contract with Mary Ann Meisner, a provisional mental health practitioner, to provide counseling to individuals in the Outpatient Program. He said Meisner's work will be supervised and the non-paid position will allow her to complete requirements for her professional license.

Kristy Mundt, Deputy County Attorney, said Meisner's provisional license will expire on April 6, 2006 and recommended limiting the contract term to April 1, 2006. She said the contract can be extended if Meisner submits proof that the State has issued her another provisional license.

**NOTE:** The contract will be scheduled on a Tuesday, Board of Commissioners Meeting agenda.

Settle said Region VI's failure to reorganize and receive individuals released from the Norfolk Regional Center in a timely manner has had a negative impact on Region V. Region V was recently unable to place seven individuals needing inpatient treatment in the Lincoln Regional Center because the acute care beds were occupied by Region VI residents. He said the situation is likely to reoccur and said Region V needs to have access to 40 acute care beds at the Lincoln Regional Center at all times in order to allow for proper transition from commitment to acute care and placement back into the community.

**MOTION:** Stevens moved and Schorr seconded to direct Dean Settle, Community Mental Health Center Director, to draft a letter to the Behavioral Health Advisory Committee outlining those concerns. Stevens, Schorr, Workman, Heier and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried.

Settle also reported that Marylyde Kornfeld, Mental Health Program Manager, and the Harvest Project (a program designed specifically to work with individuals who are over the age of 55 and suffer the combined effects of advanced age, impaired health, mental illness and/or substance abuse) will receive awards from the Community Health Endowment.

**4 YOUTH SERVICES CENTER POPULATION** - Dennis Banks, Youth Services Center Director; Michelle Schindler, Youth Services Center Deputy Director; Lori Griggs, Juvenile Probation Administrator

Dennis Banks, Youth Services Center Director, presented the following documents (Exhibit B):

- Juvenile Detention Center, Daily Population as of 7:00 a.m., 04/01/2005 to 05/19/2005
- Lancaster County Juvenile Detention Center, Average Daily Number of Youth, 04/01/2005 to 05/19/2005

Banks said the average daily population is 70 youth per day and said all eight housing pods are being utilized.

Banks, Michelle Schindler, Youth Services Center Deputy Director; and Lori Griggs, Juvenile Probation Administrator proposed that Probation Administration be given more authority to address youth who violate home detention or electronic monitoring, in coordination with the Assessment Center, in an effort to make the system more efficient.

Schorr suggested a 90 day pilot program.

Heier said he wants to look at the State's contract again, including the issue of who is responsible for costs for the period following evaluation. He also requested additional data on the youth in the Detention Center, including the number of police contacts and how many times they have been in court.

**MOTION:** Schorr moved and Heier seconded to send a letter to the Juvenile Court Judges, with signature by each of the County Commissioners, suggesting a pilot program and offering to meet with the Juvenile Court Judges to discuss the proposal further. Workman, Heier, Schorr, Stevens and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried.

**MOTION:** Heier moved to review the contract with the State.

The motion died for the lack of a second.

**MOTION:** Heier moved and Hudkins seconded to direct Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer, to set up a meeting with Nancy Montanez, Nebraska Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) Director, or her designated representative, to discuss the State's contract for placement of youth in the Youth Services Center. Stevens, Heier, Workman, Schorr and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried.

**5 LABOR NEGOTIATIONS** - Don Taute, Personnel Director; John Cripe, Classification and Pay Manager; Tom Fox, Deputy County Attorney

**MOTION:** Schorr moved and Heier seconded to enter Executive Session at 9:35 a.m. for discussion of labor negotiations. Workman, Heier, Schorr, Stevens and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried.

Schorr exited the meeting.

**MOTION:** Stevens moved and Heier seconded to exit Executive Session at 10:17 a.m. Workman, Heier, Stevens and Hudkins voted aye. Schorr was absent from voting. Motion carried.

**6 WILDLIFE DAMAGE MANAGEMENT PROPOSAL** - John Hobbs, State Director of United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA's) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Wildlife Services (WS) Program; Ricky Woods Wildlife Disease Technician

John Hobbs, State Director of United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA's) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Wildlife Services Program, presented the following (Exhibits C & D): 1) A summary of calls relating to wildlife damage in Lancaster County; and 2) A cooperative service agreement between the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA's) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Wildlife Services (WS) Program and Lancaster County for a wildlife damage management program (Draft).

Hobbs estimated the cost for a wildlife specialist to respond to calls in Lancaster County at \$60,000 and said suggested that the cost be shared equally by the County, Lower Platte South Natural Resources District (NRD) and his program. He noted that the APHIS WS Program has an agreement with the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission to share in the cost of a wildlife specialist to address the problem of feral pigs.

Schorr returned at 10:21 a.m.

Brief discussion followed with suggestions to ask the City to share the County's portion of the cost, as many of the calls occur within the city limits, and to consult the County Engineer about infrastructure damage.

Hobbs indicated that he had planned to ask the City to share in the APHIS WS Program's portion.

The Board agreed to consider the funding proposal during the budget process and suggested that it might be more appropriate to have the City and County each contribute \$15,000 towards the cost.

**7 A) INVESTMENT OF LANCASTER MANOR RENEWAL AND REPLACEMENT FUNDS; AND B) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS FISCAL YEAR 2004-05** - Dave Kroeker, Budget and Fiscal Officer

**A) Investment of Lancaster Manor Renewal and Replacement Funds**

Dave Kroeker, Budget and Fiscal Officer, appeared and presented options for investment of \$1.4 million in Renewal and Replacement Funds through Wells Fargo Institutional Brokerage & Sales and the Nebraska Public Agency Investment Trust (NPAIT) (see agenda packet).

**MOTION:** Schorr moved and Stevens seconded to invest the funds with the Federal Home Loan Bank (FHLB) at a rate of 4.25%.

Hudkins questioned whether there will be a service charge for placing the order.

Kroeker said he is not sure, but said there generally is not a charge on original issues.

**ROLL CALL:** Workman, Heier, Schorr and Stevens voted aye. Hudkins voted no. Motion carried.

## **B) Additional Appropriations Fiscal Year 2004-05**

Kroeker gave an overview of the following documents (Exhibit E):

- Lancaster County, FY05 Projected Additional Appropriations, Mid-Year FY05 Budget Review
- Lancaster County, FY05 Projected Additional Appropriations, Final Year End Adjustments

The Board scheduled a resolution to transfer appropriations from the General Fund Miscellaneous Budget to various general fund agencies, in the amount of \$689,939, on the Tuesday, May 24, 2005 Board of Commissioners Meeting agenda.

### **8 POTENTIAL LITIGATION** - Mike Thew, Chief Deputy County Attorney; Tom Fox, Deputy County Attorney

**MOTION:** Schorr moved and Heier seconded to enter Executive Session at 10:50 a.m. for discussion of potential litigation. Workman, Heier, Schorr, Stevens and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried.

**MOTION:** Stevens moved and Schorr seconded to exit Executive Session at 11:03 a.m. Workman, Heier, Stevens, Schorr and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried.

### **9 ACTION ITEMS**

A. National Association of County Officials (NACo) Voting Credentials

**MOTION:** Stevens moved and Schorr seconded to appoint Commissioner Workman as the County Board's representative and to assign him voting credentials. Heier, Stevens, Schorr, Workman and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried.

B. Letters of Support for HUB (Transitional Services Network for Young Adults) Grant

It was noted that one of the letters is in support of Even Start funding.

C. Letter of Support for Full-Service Community Schools Act

**MOTION:** Heier moved and Schorr seconded approval of the three letters.

Hudkins questioned whether rural schools would receive funding under the Full-Service Community Schools Act.

The maker of the motion and the seconder agreed to amend their motion to indicate that: 1) The letters will be sent to Senators Chuck Hagel and Ben Nelson and Congressmen Jeff Fortenberry, Tom Osborne and Lee Terry; and 2) Cathy Petsch, Lincoln Public Schools, will be asked to re-draft the third letter, which urges support of legislation to fund community schools.

There was also a request that typographical errors be corrected.

**ROLL CALL:** Heier, Schorr and Stevens voted aye. Workman and Hudkins voted no. Motion carried.

D. Agenda Items for Joint Lincoln Public Schools (LPS)/City/County Meeting (June 6, 2005)

Board consensus was to schedule a presentation by Roger Figard, City Engineer, on the Railroad Transportation Safety District (RTSD).

**10 ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER REPORT**

A. Claim for Review - Payment Voucher Payable to Industrial Services, Inc. for Invoice Number 118-954 in the amount of \$760.15. Payment Includes \$54.45 for Fuel Surcharge Which is Past Due and a Current Fuel Charge of \$29.70. The Total Fuel Surcharge is \$84.15. The Current Contract Does Not Include Payment for Fuel Surcharges.

Board consensus was to place the item under Claims for Review on the Tuesday, May 24, 2005 Board of Commissioners Meeting agenda.

B. Budget Monitoring Committee

The Board approved a membership list (Exhibit F) and authorized Dave Kroeker, Budget and Fiscal Officer, to schedule a meeting to review budget materials.

C. Agreement with City Regarding Juvenile Detainees

Hudkins said Tom Casady, Chief of Police, has included the pledge of \$50,000 to fund the Youth Services Center as a "cruiser therapy" drop-off point on his list of possible budget cuts.

D. Village of Cheney Welcome Sign

The Board scheduled a special presentation on the Tuesday, May 24, 2005 Board of Commissioners Meeting agenda.

E. Office Mail Distribution System

General discussion with Cori Beattie, County Board Administrative Secretary, on how to streamline distribution of e-mails and other correspondence.

F. Cornhusker Girls State (June 9, 2005)

The Chair and Vice Chair will meet with the participants.

G. City Use of TRIM Electronic Recordkeeping System

The Board authorized Gwen Thorpe, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, to work with the City on the financial and contractual agreements.

H. Change Orders 3 and 4 in Contract with Cheever Construction Company for Remodel of Attention Center

Don Killeen, County Property Manager, appeared and said CenterPointe's lease will be revised to reflect the additional costs.

The Board scheduled the item on the Tuesday, May 24, 2005 Board of Commissioners Meeting agenda.

I. Non-Paid Professional Voluntary Partnership at Community Mental Health Center

Item moved forward on the agenda.

**ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

A. Meeting to Discuss the Charles Lindbergh Memorial Airport Proposal

Workman reported on a meeting held to discuss the proposal. He said Thorpe will set up a meeting with John Wood, Lincoln Airport Authority Executive Director, Phyllis Chambers, Lincoln Airport Authority Chairperson, and representatives of the Federal Aeronautics Administration (FAA) to discuss airspace legalities.

Schorr reported that Lincoln will host an air show in 2006.

B. County Logo

The Board reviewed logo concepts for the Lancaster County Seal (Exhibit G). The following revisions were requested: 1) Keep the artwork within the circle; 2) Eliminate the background lines; 3) Eliminate the boy figure; 4) Change the expressions on the figures; and 5) Reduce the size.

C. Surplus Property on Northwest 27<sup>th</sup> Street and Highway 34

It was noted that Jim Burden, 7000 Northwest 27<sup>th</sup> Street, has expressed interest in purchasing the surplus property. The State owns a portion of the property (in the middle of the County's right-of-way) and may only sell to a contiguous owner.

**MOTION:** Heier moved and Workman seconded to direct Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer, to submit an offer of \$1,000 to the State for their portion. Workman, Stevens, Heier, Schorr and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried.

**11 DISCUSSION OF BOARD MEMBER MEETINGS**

A. Information Services Policy Commission - Stevens

No report.

B. Joint Budget Committee (JBC) - Stevens, Workman

Stevens said the committee will review funding requests on June 10<sup>th</sup>.

C. Visitors Promotion Committee - Schorr

Schorr said the budget was approved.

D. Lincoln Independent Business Association (LIBA) Budget Monitoring Committee - Stevens

Stevens said discussion focused on the City's budget; jail overcrowding, appointment of a new City Public Works/Utilities Director, and a potential Joint Public Agency (JPA) for the Rural-to-Urban Transition Streets (RUTS) Program.

**12 EMERGENCY ITEMS AND OTHER BUSINESS**

Schorr reported on a skating event sponsored by Families First & Foremost (F<sup>3</sup>).

### **13 ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** Stevens moved and Schorr seconded to adjourn the meeting at 12:05 p.m. Stevens, Workman, Heier, Schorr and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried.

---

Bruce Medcalf  
Lancaster County Clerk